

### REMARKS

Applicants will address each of the Examiner's objections and rejections in the order in which they appear in the Office Action.

#### Drawings

In the Office Action, the Examiner objects to the drawings as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.83(a) as the Examiner states that "the supply and drains for each TFT described in claims 1-101 must be shown or the features canceled from the claims". This objection is respectfully traversed.

This feature is clearly shown in the drawings.<sup>1</sup> For example, the cross sectional views of Fig. 15B show a switching TFT 5100, a discharge TFT 5101, and an EL driving TFT 5102. Those of ordinary skill in the art clearly understand that source and drains of these TFTs are shown in this drawing.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that this feature is clearly shown in the drawings, and it is requested that this objection be withdrawn.

#### Claim Rejections – 35 USC §112

The Examiner also rejects Claims 21, 23, 26, 28, 31, 33, 84, 86, 89, 91, 94, 96, 99 and 101 under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for lack of an antecedent basis for specified terms in the claims.

Applicants has amended each of these claims to provide an antecedent basis for the objected to term. It is respectfully submitted that this overcomes the rejection, and it is

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<sup>1</sup> Applicant assumes that the Examiner intended to state "the source and drain" rather than "the supply and drains".

requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

#### Double Patenting

The Examiner also rejects Claims 21, 28, 33, 86, 89, 91 or 96 as being a duplicate of other claims. In light of the amendments made to correct the section 112 informalities, it is respectfully submitted that this rejection has now been overcome.

#### Claim Rejections - 35 USC §102

The Examiner further rejects of Claims 1, 3-7, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 30, 32, 34-50, 83, 85, 87, 93, 95 and 97 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Dawson. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

In order to advance the prosecution of this application, Claims 1, 4 and 5 have been amended to recite a source signal line and a switching TFT. This feature is shown in the present application wherein, for example, the switching TFT corresponds to the TFT 102 and the source signal line corresponds to the signal line (Si) of Fig. 1. Applicant respectfully submits that the circuit as recited in the amended claims is not disclosed or suggested by Dawson.

With respect to Claim 3, the Examiner alleges that the electric discharge TFT of Dawson controls the amount of a current supplied from the power supply line to the reference power supply line and cites column 3, lines 22-54 of Dawson in support thereof. Applicant can not find this teaching in the cited section and submits that the Examiner has failed to show the proper basis for this allegation. Further, Applicant does not think this limitation is taught by Dawson.

With respect to Claims 6 and 7, Applicant submits that the current flow direction as recited in these claims is not taught by Dawson. Applicant has amended Claims 6 and 7 to

clarify this feature. In addition, Dawson fails to teach the limitation recited in claim 7 that "wherein the amount of the current flowing through the channel formation region of each .... is the same as the ....".

Claim 16 is specifically directed to the embodiment of Fig. 4. Dawson fails to teach the limitation that the source region of the electric discharge TFT is electrically connected to a gate signal line, as recited in the claim.

Claim 18 is specifically directed to the embodiment of Fig. 5. and is also supported by Embodiment Mode 4. Dawson fails to teach that the source region of the electric discharge TFT is electrically connected to an opposite electrode of the EL element as recited in the amended claim 18.

Accordingly, for at least the above-stated reasons, Dawson fails to disclose or suggest the claimed invention. Therefore, it is requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

#### Claims Rejections - 35 USC §103

The Examiner also rejects Claims 1, 2, 8-17, 19, 51, 55, 59, 63, 67, 71, 75 and 79 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takemura USP 5,576,857 in view of Sano 6,628,363. This rejection is also respectfully traversed.

For at least the above-stated reasons, Applicant submits that the rejection of Claims 16 and 19 is not correct.

For example, with respect to Claim 16, this claim is relevant to the Fig. 4 embodiment. Takemura fails to teach that a source region of the electric discharge TFT is electrically connected to a gate signal line as recited in the Claim. With respect to Claim 19, this claim is directed to the Fig. 5 embodiment. Takemura fails to teach that a source region of the electric discharge TFT is electrically connected to an opposite electrode of the EL element as recited in the claim.

In addition, Applicant has amended the remaining independent claims to recite a source signal line. Since it is the Examiner's position is that the line Ym in Takemura corresponds to the claimed power supply line, the recitation of the source signal line in addition to the power supply line overcomes this rejection because the line Ym in Takemura is actually the source signal line and therefore, the reference does not disclose the claimed power supply line.

Therefore, it is requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

The Examiner also rejects Claims 25, 27, 29, 52-54, 56-58, 60-62, 64-66, 68-70, 72-74, 76-78, 80-82, 88, 90, 92, 98 and 100 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Takemura in view of Sano and further in view of Dawson, and rejects Claim 21, 23, 26, 28, 31, 33, 84, 89, 91, 94, 96, 99 and 101 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Dawson in view of Sedra and Smith, or over Takemura in view of Sano and Dawson and further in view of Sedra and Smith. Each of these rejections is respectfully traversed.

For at least the reasons discussed above, the claimed invention is not disclosed or suggested by the cited references. Accordingly, it is requested that these rejections be withdrawn.

#### New Claims

Applicant is adding new Claims 102-144. Please charge our deposit account 50/1039 for any fee due for these claims.

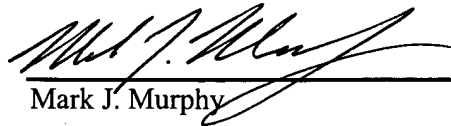
#### Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is now in a condition for allowance and should be allowed.

If any fee should be due for this amendment, please charge our deposit account  
50/1039.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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